

Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery

<http://jfm.sagepub.com/>

Matrix Vaccination Guidelines: ABCD recommendations for indoor/ outdoor cats, rescue shelter cats and breeding catteries

Margaret J Hosie, Diane Addie, Sándor Belák, Corine Boucraut-Baralon, Herman Egberink, Tadeusz Frymus, Tim Gruffydd-Jones, Katrin Hartmann, Albert Lloret, Hans Lutz, Fulvio Marsilio, Karin Möstl, Maria Grazia Pennisi, Alan D Radford, Etienne Thiry, Uwe Truyen and Marian C Horzinek
Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery 2013 15: 540
DOI: 10.1177/1098612X13489209

The online version of this article can be found at:

<http://jfm.sagepub.com/content/15/7/540>

Disclaimer

The Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery is an international journal and authors may discuss products and formulations that are not available or licensed in the individual reader's own country. Furthermore, drugs may be mentioned that are licensed for human use, and not for veterinary use. Readers need to bear this in mind and be aware of the prescribing laws pertaining to their own country. Likewise, in relation to advertising material, it is the responsibility of the reader to check that the product is authorised for use in their own country. The authors, editors, owners and publishers do not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage arising from actions or decisions based on information contained in this publication; ultimate responsibility for the treatment of animals and interpretation of published materials lies with the veterinary practitioner. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and the inclusion in this publication of material relating to a particular product, method or technique does not amount to an endorsement of its value or quality, or the claims made by its manufacturer.

Published by:

[International Society of Feline Medicine](#)



[American Association of Feline Practitioners](#)



and

<http://www.sagepublications.com>

Additional services and information for *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery* can be found at:

Email Alerts: <http://jfm.sagepub.com/cgi/alerts>

Subscriptions: <http://jfm.sagepub.com/subscriptions>

Reprints: <http://www.sagepub.com/journalsReprints.nav>

Permissions: <http://www.sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav>

>> [Version of Record](#) - Jun 27, 2013

Downloaded from jfm.sagepub.com at Université de Liège on September 3, 2013

[What is This?](#)

MATRIX VACCINATION GUIDELINES

ABCD recommendations for indoor/ outdoor cats, rescue shelter cats and breeding catteries



Margaret J Hosie, Diane Addie, Sándor Belák, Corine Boucraut-Baralon, Herman Egberink, Tadeusz Frymus, Tim Gruffydd-Jones, Katrin Hartmann, Albert Lloret, Hans Lutz, Fulvio Marsilio, Karin Möstl, Maria Grazia Pennisi, Alan D Radford, Etienne Thiry, Uwe Truyen and Marian C Horzinek

Overview: This article presents, in a user-friendly, tabulated form, the ABCD's current vaccination recommendations for four broad categories of cats: outdoor cats (ie, those with access outdoors that come into contact with other cats outdoors); indoor cats (ie, those with no contact with other cats from outdoors); rescue shelter cats; and cats in breeding catteries. Note that it is not always possible to make a clear distinction between these various categories and the definition in any individual case is left up to the veterinary surgeon conducting the vaccination interview.

Introduction

It was evident during the preparation of the complete ABCD vaccination guidelines that no single vaccination protocol would be appropriate for all cats across Europe. Rather, it is important to conduct a vaccination interview in order to devise a vaccination strategy appropriate to the lifestyle, geographical location and disease risks relevant to each feline patient. These matrix vaccination guidelines were compiled to assist veterinary surgeons during the vaccination interview, summarising the ABCD's vaccine recommendations. The 'core' vaccines should be administered to all cats, whereas 'circumstantial' vaccines are required under specific circumstances (for example, for cats travelling to areas where rabies is endemic, or cats with outdoor access and therefore at risk of infection with FeLV), and 'non-core' vaccines are recommended only for cats at risk of specific infections.

Abbreviations used in the matrix tables

European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases
The European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD) is a body of experts in immunology, vaccinology and clinical feline medicine that issues guidelines on prevention and management of feline infectious diseases in Europe, for the benefit of the health and welfare of cats. The guidelines are based on current scientific knowledge of the diseases and available vaccines concerned.

The latest version of the guidance presented in this article is available at www.abcd-vets.org

DOI	Duration of immunity
FCV	Feline calicivirus
FCoV/FIP	Feline coronavirus/feline infectious peritonitis
FeLV	Feline leukaemia virus
FHV	Feline herpesvirus
FPV	Feline panleukopenia virus
MDA	Maternally-derived antibodies
MLV	Modified-live vaccine
PV	Primary vaccination course



OUTDOOR CATS (cats that have access outdoors and contact with other cats from outdoors)

Vaccination of outdoor cats						
Vaccine/ disease agent	Kitten vaccination course			Adult cat		Comments
	PV1	PV2	PV3	Final PV/ first booster	Vaccinated <3 years ago	Unvaccinated/ no vaccine history
Core	FPV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	16 weeks (in certain situations)	1 year later	One immunisation, boost every 3 years or more
	FHV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	One immunisation, boost annually
	FCV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	16 weeks (if high risk or expected high MDA)	1 year later	One immunisation, boost annually
	FeLV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Two immunisations 2–4 weeks apart, boost 1 year later
Circumstantial	Rabies virus	12–16 weeks Single vaccination	–	–	1 year later	One immunisation
					Some vaccines' DOI is 3 years, but legislation may require annual boosters	
Non-core	FCoV/FIP	Not before 16 weeks	3 weeks later	–	1 year later	Annually
	<i>Chlamydomphila felis</i>	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Annually
	<i>Bordetella bronchiseptica</i>	1 month or older. Single vaccination	–	–	1 year later	Annually in high-density populations only
See page 540 for explanation of vaccine categories (core, circumstantial and non-core) and abbreviations. Image courtesy of www.sureflap.co.uk						



INDOOR CATS (cats that have no contact with cats from outdoors)

Vaccination of indoor cats							
Vaccine/ disease agent	Kitten vaccination course			Adult cat		Comments	
	PV1	Primary PV2	PV3	Final PV/ first booster	Vaccinated <3 years ago		Unvaccinated / no vaccine history
Core	FPV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	16 weeks (in certain situations)	1 year later	One immunisation, boost every 3 years or more	Do not use MLV in kittens <4 weeks of age Pregnant cats should not be vaccinated
	FHV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	One immunisation, boost every 3 years*	Recovered cats should be vaccinated
	FCV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	16 weeks (if high risk or expected high MDA)	1 year later	One immunisation, boost every 3 years*	Recovered cats should be vaccinated
CS	Rabies virus	12–16 weeks	–	–	1 year later	One immunisation. Some vaccines' DOI is 3 years, but legislation may require annual boosters	Only vaccinate if required by local legislation
	FelV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Boost every 2–3 years after 3 years of age	Only vaccinate if there is contact with FelV- positive cats or those of unknown FelV status
Non-core	FCoV/FIP	Not before 16 weeks	3 weeks later	–	1 year later	Boost annually	Intranasal vaccine. Vaccine is available in some European countries
	Chlamydomphila felis	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Annually	Where cats are kept together long term, vaccinate regularly
	Bordetella bronchiseptica	1 month or older. One immunisation in high-density populations only	–	–	1 year later	Annually in high-density populations only	Do not use MLV in kittens <4 weeks of age. Vaccine available in some European countries. Vaccinate in high-density areas where Bordetella is confirmed

See page 540 for explanation of vaccine categories (core, CS [circumstantial] and non-core) and abbreviations. *Boost annually if using a boarding cattery. Image ©iStockphoto.com/Kevin Russ



RESCUE SHELTER CATS (cats living in centres for unowned and abandoned cats)

Vaccination of rescue shelter cats

Vaccine/ disease agent	Kitten			Adult cat		Comments
	PV1	Primary vaccination course PV2	PV3	Final PV/ first booster	Vaccinated <3 years ago	
Core	FPV	6 weeks (4 weeks if needed)	3–4 weeks later	3–4 weeks later until 16 weeks	1 year later	Booster vaccinations at 3 yearly intervals
	FHV	6 weeks (4 weeks if needed)	3–4 weeks later	3–4 weeks later until 16 weeks	1 year later	Annually
	FCV	6 weeks (4 weeks if needed)	3–4 weeks later	3–4 weeks later until 16 weeks	1 year later	Annually
CS	Rabies virus	12–16 weeks	–	–	1 year later	Some vaccines' DOI is 3 years, but legislation may require annual boosters
	FelV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Quarantine and test before two immunisations 2–4 weeks apart, boost 1 year later
Non-core	FCoV/FIP	First immunisation from 16 weeks	3 weeks later	–	1 year later	Two immunisations 2–4 weeks apart, boost 1 year later
	<i>Chlamydomophila felis</i>	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Two immunisations 2–4 weeks apart, boost 1 year later
	<i>Bordetella bronchiseptica</i>	One immunisation in cats 1 month or older	–	–	1 year later	One immunisation, boost annually

See page 540 for explanation of vaccine categories (core, CS [circumstantial] and non-core) and abbreviations. Image ©Stockphoto.com/Dwight Smith



BREEDING CATTERIES (cats in any multicat environment used for breeding purposes)

Vaccination of cats in a breeding cattery						
Vaccine/ disease agent	PV1	Primary PV2	Kitten vaccination course PV3	Final PV/ first booster	Breeding cats	Comments
Core	FPV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	16–20 weeks	1 year later	Do not use MLV in kittens <4 weeks of age Pregnant cats should not be vaccinated
	FHV	8–9 weeks	Vaccinate every 2 weeks until 12 weeks	–	1 year later	Recovered cats should be vaccinated. Consider earlier vaccination in litters from queens that have had infected litters previously
	FCV	8–9 weeks	Vaccinate every 2 weeks until 16 weeks	–	1 year later	Recovered cats should be vaccinated
CS	Rabies virus	12–16 weeks	–	–	1 year later	Only vaccinate if required by local legislation
Non-core	FeLV	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	Breeding catteries should be FeLV negative. Vaccination not needed unless there is access to outdoors and in a high-risk geographical area
	FCoV/FIP	Not before 16 weeks	3 weeks later	–	1 year later	Intranasal vaccine. Vaccine available in some European countries
	<i>Chlamydomophila felis</i>	8–9 weeks	12 weeks	–	1 year later	–
	<i>Bordetella bronchiseptica</i>	One immunisation in cats 1 month or older	–	–	1 year later	Do not use MLV in kittens <4 weeks of age. Vaccine available in some European countries. Vaccinate in catteries where <i>Bordetella</i> is confirmed

See page 540 for explanation of vaccine categories (core, CS [circumstantial] and non-core) and abbreviations. Image ©iStockphoto.com/oksun70